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Asbestos sheets are being instituted under the mattresses of sleeping cars on some of the railways of the United States to shut out the heat from the radiators underneath.

The elevator originated in central Europe. The earliest mention of the elevator is made in a letter of Napoleon I. addressed to his wife, Archduchess Maria Louise.

Dr. Hillis thinks the millennium has arrived. The man who needs 14 tons of hard coal and doesn't know where he is going to get the money to pay for it is probably convinced that a millennium doesn't amount to much, after all.

A simplified spelling society in England wants to have school children taught to spell by ear. To show how tastes differ, it is a matter of common complaint among business men here that some of the graduates of the common schools spell that way now.

Can the proposition that the minimum salary for an unmarried Episcopalian clergyman in the diocese of New York should be \$1,200 and for a married clergyman \$1,500 with a suitable place to live in, or \$1,500 in money, be taken as an official statement of the exact cost of a wife?

When the officers of the American battleships arrived at Tokyo last month they were welcomed by crowds of school children, who sang "Hail Columbia" and other American songs in English. When have American school children ever welcomed foreign visitors by singing songs in their native tongue?

In view of the fact that the price of stock exchange seats in New York has jumped recently from \$70,000 to \$75,000, it is a little discouraging to learn that the owner of a pew in fashionable Grace church, on lower Broadway, which he bought for \$3,000, has been able to get only \$1,100 bid for it, at auction.

Cornetists standing in the belfry of the Park Street church in Boston played "America" at noon on October 21, in honor of the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Rev. S. F. Smith, the author of the words sung to the music in this country. "America" was first sung publicly in this church, on July 4, 1832.

About 250 buffalo, remnant of the famous Pablo herd recently purchased by the Dominion government, will be taken from Montana and placed in the new buffalo park on Baltic river, a thousand miles northwest of Winnipeg. The animals now are being rounded up by Michael Pablo in Montana and will be brought north in special trains.

There has recently been opened in one of London's fashionable streets a toilet club for dogs. There the pets of the smart set can have their hair dressed and their coats trimmed to immaculate perfection. For three shillings they can be bathed. If their teeth are imperfect they can be filled or extracted, and if their claws protrude too far they can be daintily manicured.

Germany in 20 years has increased its yearly mining product from 100,000,000 metric tons to 242,609,000 metric tons, worth \$429,986,200. Coal forms 85 per cent. of the output. Other minerals are salt, iron ores, copper, lead, zinc, pyrites, gold, silver, manganese, arsenic, saltpeter, vitriol and alum. The workmen number about 700,000, and the companies about 2,000.

Dr. Norman Dittman has received the Gibbs prize of \$20,000, offered by the New York academy for the best original research work on the kidneys. The prize was founded to create an interest in the study of Bright's disease. Dr. Dittman's investigations tried to account for the unnecessary two-thirds of man's meat diet, and to see if this had any close connection with the poisons present in the system of a person afflicted with Bright's disease.

The American Humane society is to arrange a plan to war on cruelty, and victims of the mammoth hat are hoping for relief.

ROOSEVELT OFF FOR GREAT HUNT

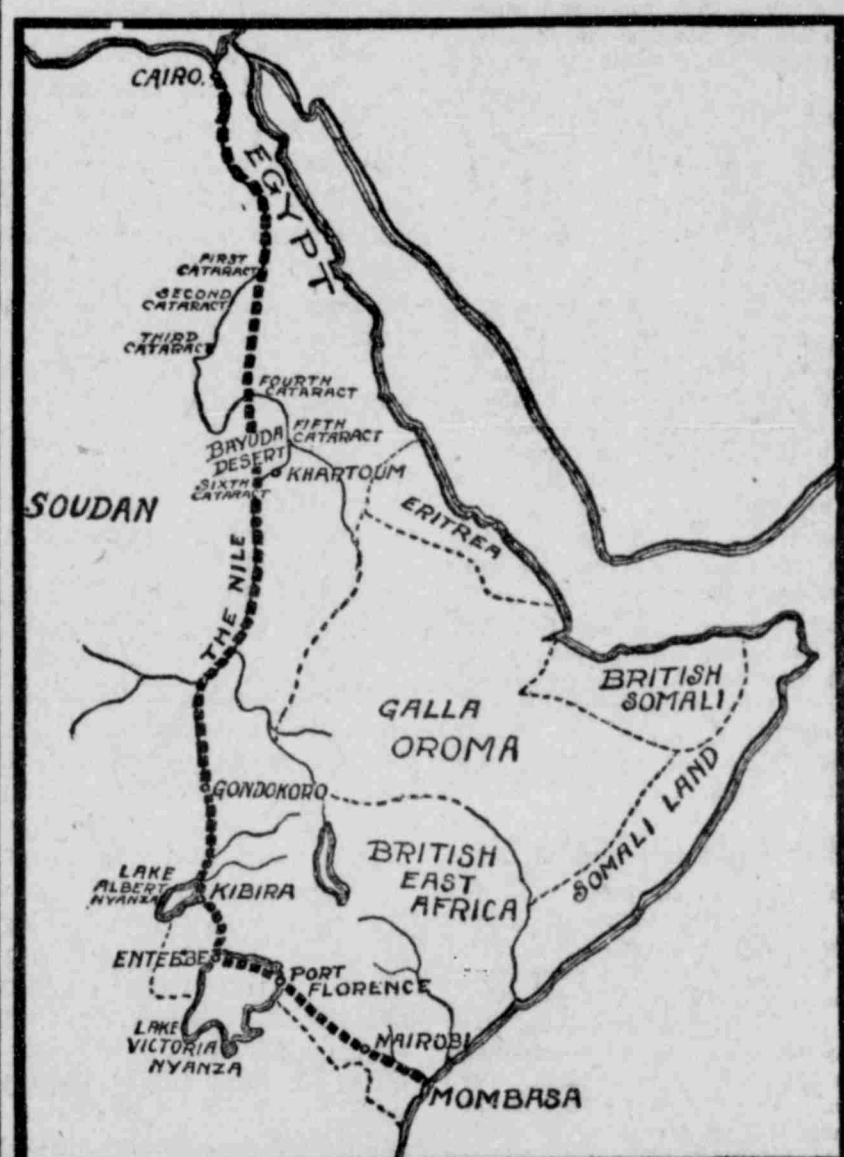
EX-PRESIDENT SAILS AWAY TO DARK CONTINENT.

TO BE IN AFRICA A YEAR

Then He Will Travel and Speak in Europe—Three Skilled Naturalists and His Son Kermit Accompany Him.

New York.—Theodore Roosevelt, ex-president of the United States, sailed out of New York harbor Tuesday on the steamer Hamburg of the Hamburg-American line on the way to his much-heralded hunting trip in British East Africa.

On the dock was a large assemblage of Mr. Roosevelt's friends, who had gathered to bid him God-speed, and who cheered him as he stood at the rail of the steamer waving his hand and smiling with delight. Beside him stood the three men selected from hundreds of applicants to accompany him and assist him in collecting the specimens of African fauna which he hopes to send back for the enrichment of the Smithsonian institution. These fortunate individuals were Maj. Edgar A. Mearns, J. Loring Alden and Edmund Heller. They comprise the Smithsonian's expedition. The fifth member of the little party, and not to be considered of least importance, was



ROUTE OF THE ROOSEVELT PARTY IN AFRICA.

the ex-president's second son, Kermit, who will be the official photographer of the expedition and, next to his father, the chief hunter.

To Mombasa Via Naples. Mr. Roosevelt will go via Gibraltar to Naples, where he will board a steamer of the German East African line for Kilindini harbor, the port of Mombasa. At the latter place the party will be joined by R. J. Cunningham, an Englishman of long experience in Africa, who has been engaged as general manager and guide.

The party will spend a short time in Mombasa and then proceed by train on the Uganda railway to Nairobi, headquarters of the administration of British East Africa Protectorate, a city of 15,514 inhabitants, of whom 579 are Europeans.

On MacMillan's Ranch. William Northrup MacMillan, formerly of St. Louis, owns a large estate near Nairobi and his big, luxurious farmhouse will be headquarters for about six months while the hunters and scientists make trips of varying length in all directions. It is in this section that Mr. Roosevelt hopes to obtain most of his specimens, for it abounds with animals of all kinds. The smaller mammals will be trapped. The supplies of the party are packed in tin-lined boxes. These boxes when they have been emptied will be used as packing cases for the various specimens. Many valuable natural history specimens have been spoiled by ants and other insects, it has been found, and it is to guard against this that the tin-lined boxes are being taken along.

Caring for Specimens. When the specimens have been prepared they will be carefully packed in the boxes and shipped to Nairobi, where they will be forwarded to the United States. One of the taxidermists will always be with Mr. Roosevelt, and as soon as any big game is shot by him it will be skinned and prepared on the spot.

Mr. Roosevelt will be greatly disappointed if he fails to kill several specimens of the white rhinoceros. This animal is the same as the square-mouthed rhinoceros and is the nearest

living ally to the type of the extinct Tichorine or woolly rhinoceros which lived in England at the close of the Glacial period.

Journey Across Uganda. Leaving Nairobi in October, the party will proceed by the Uganda railway to Port Florence, on the shores of Lake Victoria Nyanza, where a short stop will be made; then a steamer will be taken to Entebbe, 150 miles away. There a caravan will be formed and the journey across Uganda to the Nile will be begun. It is expected that the White Nile will be reached about the first of the year 1910. Lake Albert Nyanza will be touched at Kibira.

In a general way the course of the Nile will be followed to Gondokoro, and thence to Khartoum. At this city Mr. Roosevelt and Kermit will be joined by Mrs. Roosevelt and they will continue down the Nile slowly to Cairo, visiting many points of interest on the way.

To Speak in European Capitals. Plans for the remainder of the expedition's two years' tour have not been decided upon definitely, but the time will be spent in Europe, and several matters of importance have been announced. He will visit Berlin at the invitation of Emperor William and while there will deliver an address upon the one hundredth anniversary of the founding of the University of Berlin.

From Germany he will go to France and deliver an address at the Sorbonne. It has not been learned how long Mr. Roosevelt intends to stay in Berlin and Paris. After his visit in France, Mr. Roosevelt will go to England, where a reception of great warmth undoubtedly will be accorded

to him. He has accepted an invitation to deliver the Romanes lecture at Oxford university and in all probability the honorary degree of D. C. L., which Oxford has bestowed on Emperor William, will be conferred on Mr. Roosevelt.

The versatility of Mr. Roosevelt will be shown by the fact that he will speak German in his address before the students of the University of Berlin, French in his lecture at the Sorbonne, and English in delivering the Romanes lecture at Oxford.

Pays His Own Expenses. Mr. Roosevelt will defray the expenses of himself and his son on the African trip, but those of the scientists and the cost of preparing the specimens and shipping them to America will be paid out of a fund secured for the purpose by the Smithsonian institution.

One of the objects of Mr. Roosevelt in taking this trip is for the purpose of collecting material for writing several books regarding his experiences. During last summer he contracted with Charles Scribner's Sons, of New York, giving that firm all the rights for the serial and book-form publication of whatever he might write on his visit to Africa. It is said that the contract price agreed upon is \$1 per word, but this never has been verified.

No Slaughter of Animals. Even if the British colonial government should offer to throw open to Mr. Roosevelt and his companions the African game preserves under its control, the ex-president will refuse to take advantage of this opportunity. Like other true sportsmen, he believes that the utmost protection should be given to wild animals on reservations and that permission to kill them should not be given or accepted under any circumstances unless, possibly, when predatory animals are becoming too numerous.

Moreover, the killing of animals for sport is not the main object of his trip. Mr. Roosevelt hopes to send back to the Smithsonian institution two adult specimens, one of each sex, and a specimen of their young, of animals he meets with on the Dark Continent. Beyond this the killing will be limited to the demands of the commissary.

TAFT MESSAGE SETS A RECORD

PRESIDENT SENDS TARIFF VIEWS TO CONGRESS.

IS SHORTEST DOCUMENT

Adheres to Revision Pledge with Treatise of Less Than 400 Words—Conditions Changed, He Says.

Washington. — When President Taft's personal messenger arrived at the capitol Tuesday, supposedly with the executive message on the tariff question, groans went up from both houses of congress. The congressmen, seeing no evidence of a message, drew the quick conclusion that the president hadn't written it yet and that it was to be postponed for another day.

They knew the message was to be short, but they were thunderstruck when the messenger pulled it out of his vest pocket and laid it before the clerk. It was less than 400 words in length, thus setting a new record for short messages. The messenger had memorized it on the way over from the White House, but owing to the amendment to the old house rules, he was not allowed to recite it, so the clerk read it there.

"Get busy," was the theme of the abbreviated document, the president simply telling congress that conditions in the past 12 years had so changed that a revision of the present tariff duties was an absolute necessity. He further called attention to the fact that in the republican convention at Chicago last June, the party had promised to revise the tariff if elected and this must be done.

As President Roosevelt's messages were usually long and as the former occupant of the White House had engaged in a small war with congress, there was a general expression of satisfaction.

Following is the message: "To the Senate and House of Representatives: I have convened the congress in this extra session in order to enable it to give immediate consideration to the revision of the Dingley tariff act. Conditions affecting production, manufacture and business generally have so changed in the last 12 years as to require a readjustment and revision of the import duties imposed by that act. More than this, the present tariff act, with the other sources of government revenue, does not furnish income enough to pay the authorized expenditures. By July 1st, next, the excess of expenses over receipts for the current fiscal year will equal \$100,000,000.

"The successful party in the late election is pledged to a revision of the tariff. The country, and the business community, especially, expect it. The prospect of a change in the rates of import duties always causes a suspension or halt in business because of the uncertainty as to the changes to be made and their effect. It is therefore of the highest importance that the new bill should be agreed upon and passed with as much speed as possible consistent with its due and thorough consideration. For these reasons I have deemed the present to be an extraordinary occasion within the meaning of the constitution, justifying and requiring the calling of an extra session.

"In my inaugural address, I stated in a summary way the principles upon which, in my judgment, the revision of the tariff should proceed, and indicated at least one new source of revenue that might be properly resorted to in order to avoid a future deficit. It is not necessary for me to repeat what I then said.

"I venture to suggest that the vital business interests of the country require that the attention of the congress in this session be chiefly devoted to the consideration of the new tariff bill, and that the less time given to other subjects of legislation in this session, the better for the country.

(Signed) "WILLIAM H. TAFT.
"The White House, March 16, 1909."

BOY OUT OF WORK A SUICIDE.

Leaves a Pathetic Note for Little Girl, His Only Friend.

Indianapolis, Ind., Mar. 16.—Guthrie Powers, 19 years old, killed himself in his room by drinking carbolic acid late yesterday. He could not find work. He and the little daughter of the housekeeper were fast friends, and Guthrie left for the child the following note:

"My Dear Little Verna: I am sorry I cannot look into your dear, sweet face again. Honey, good-by. There is no place on earth for me. You are my dearest and only friend. What is life without friends or home?"

The youth left his home six weeks ago, after a quarrel with his step-father.

Sustains Wisconsin Central Fine. St. Louis, Mar. 16.—Judge Adams in the United States circuit court of appeals has sustained a decision of the St. Paul federal court, which fined the Wisconsin Central railroad \$17,000 for granting rebates of half a cent a bushel on grain shipped by the Spencer Company of Milwaukee.

Train Horse for Taft. Oklahoma City, Okla., Mar. 16.—A big Oklahoma horse, purchased for the army, is being trained at Fort Reno, Okla., for President Taft.

DRANK CAROLIC ACID ON THE STREET

Strange Suicide of a Wealthy Pittsburgh Woman, Who Suffered From Neuralgia.

Pittsburg, Pa., March 22.—Unable longer to bear the agony she had suffered for years, Mrs. Jennie Moorehead Murdoch, wealthy, a social favorite, and one of the best-known women in the city, drank carbolic acid in Forbes street at noon Sunday and died at Mercy hospital shortly afterward. The act of self-destruction was carried out in Forbes street, within a short distance of the Oakland M. E. church, the sole witness being the eight-year-old daughter of E. F. McCafferty, of Atwood street. The child's screams brought dozens of members of the church to the scene, but strangely none of them recognized the sufferer.

After the death the body was removed to the morgue and the name was given out as Laura O'Brien. Subsequently an undertaker took charge of the corpse, but neither he nor the coroner would vouch any information concerning the woman's real identity.

It was these extraordinary precautions that finally led to the identity of the suicide being revealed. The case, savoring of mystery and big possibilities, caused strenuous efforts to be made to learn who the woman was, and finally the secret was revealed.

At midnight, however, it developed that the suicide was Mrs. Murdoch, and it was said the cause was neuralgia, with which she had suffered incessantly for four years.

Mrs. Murdoch was a member of the Shadyside Presbyterian church, and she attended services there Sunday morning, leaving shortly before their conclusion. She was richly attired, and when she entered a drug store on Forbes street to purchase the acid no question was asked.

The suicide was the daughter of the late Col. Moorehead, who amassed a large fortune here in the manufacture of steel. She was the mother of Dr. J. Moorehead Murdoch, of the Institution for Feeble Minded Children, Peik; Augustus P. Murdoch, of Oswego, N. Y., and of William Moorehead Murdoch, Cincinnati. She was a member of several clubs, and lived in St. James street, one of the city's aristocratic thoroughfares.

SHERIFF CALLED ON

To Suppress a Riot in Polish Catholic Church at Detroit.

Detroit, Mich., March 22.—Because of a disagreement between Rev. Father Bernard Zmijewski, pastor of St. Florian's Polish church, and half of his parishioners Sunday Sheriff Gaston and a posse of deputies were hurried to the scene in response to a riot call.

The church has been a cause of much trouble to the police. One week ago, so strong was the opposition to Father Zmijewski that he conducted the services almost directly beneath the eyes of a score of big police officers sent there to maintain order.

Sunday's trouble resulted in several broken heads and more or less sacrilege within the walls of the edifice. The disagreement is due to the different ideas of the pastor and his flock as to the manner in which the church affairs should be conducted.

Career Ended By Thrust of Dagger.

Raton, N. M., March 22.—Antonio Dujillo, a coke worker, started out to rid himself of his enemies, and as a result three persons are dead. Dujillo attacked his cousin, named Bartole, and shot him in the abdomen. Bartole ran to the home of his brother, Francisco Bartole, pursued by Dujillo. The latter threw open the door of house and fired inside, the bullet lodging in Mrs. Bartole's head, killing her instantly. Enraged at the sight of his wife lying dead, Francisco Bartole plunged a dagger into Dujillo's body, killing him. Bartole died later in the hospital.

Tornado Blew Child Into a Fire.

Fl. Deposit, Ala., March 22.—Sunday morning a tornado did considerable damage in this vicinity. The loss was small near the town, but the entire negro quarter on the Norwood Johnson place was totally destroyed and a number of occupants of houses injured. On the Buchanan place the cottage of Miles Henderson was blown to splinters, he and his wife suffering painful injuries. Just east of Henderson's house another cottage was blown down and a small child blown into the fire and burned to death. A number of other houses were wrecked.

Prisoners Blown From Guns.

Peshawar, British India, March 22.—It is reported that 1,000 arrests have been made at Jellalabad, Afghanistan, in connection with the recent plot to murder the ameer, the heir apparent, and the other members of the royal family. According to advices, batches of prisoners are being blown from guns.

Youth Goes Mad.

Los Angeles, Cal., March 22.—Going violently insane following a trip from Allentown, Pa., Russell Wilmet, son of Mrs. Mary Wilmet, a wealthy resident of that city, was placed in the receiving hospital after a desperate struggle with two police officers.

International Race.

Zurich, Switzerland, March 22.—The Swiss Aero club has fixed October 10 for the international balloon race for the James Gordon Bennett cup. The entries number 20 and represent nine countries.

PETER AND CORNELIUS

Sunday School Lesson for April 4, 1909

Specialty Arranged for This Paper

LESSON TEXT.—Acts 16:1-30. Memory verse 15:35.

GOLDEN TEXT.—"In every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him."—Acts 10:35.

TIME.—35-45 A. D. PLACE.—Joppa and Caesarea. "The traditional house of Simon the tanner is a typical eastern dwelling, with heavy barred gateways and a forbidding, windowless exterior. The waves of the Mediterranean beat against the low outer wall, while in the courtyard is a spring of pure water which tradition tells us was used by Simon."—Rev. Francis E. Clark, D. D.

RULERS.—Herod Agrippa, king of Judea and Samaria. Calpurnia, emperor of Rome.

Comment and Suggestive Thought.

"The main purpose of the book of the Acts is to untold the broadening spirit and form of the church of God."—Theodore T. Munger, D. D. "This chapter (Acts 16) is parallel in importance with that which depicted the scenes of Pentecost."—David O. Mearns, D. D.

Cornelius was a centurion, corresponding to our captain, the head of a company of soldiers numbering 100 when full. This company was part of the cohort "called the Italian band," because made up of Romans born in Italy.

(1) He was "a devout man, and one that feared God." The words have a technical sense, says McGiffert, and indicate that Cornelius worshipped the God of the Jews, but was not formally a proselyte. (2) He was a good husband and father, and led "all his house" in his own righteous ways. (3) He was liberal, and "gave much alms to the people." (4) He was not only outwardly devout, but inwardly pious, and "prayed to God always." In these secret prayers we may be sure, from the sequel, that he sought for a better knowledge of God and of God's will, for that is what was given him (v. 4). (5) Moreover (Acts 10:22), Cornelius carried his religion into practical affairs, where he was just and fair dealing; and (6) as the result of it all, he was held in high honor by the Jews themselves (Acts 10:22), as well as by the Gentiles. It would have been impossible to find a better man for God's purpose, or one who would have appeared more strongly to Peter.

"The sixth hour" (noon) was "a set time of devotion with pious Jews."—Gelkie. Peter had retired from his comrades in toil, for perhaps he helped Simon in his tannery, and nowhere better than "upon the housetop" could he find privacy and quiet for prayer. The roofs of eastern houses are flat, and often surmounted with a parapet three or four feet high, which would screen Peter from observation as he knelt. He was "very hungry," for he "probably had not yet broken his fast."—Rackham. They were preparing food below, and perhaps the savor of it rose to the housetop, but before it was ready Peter "fell into a trance." The Greek word for trance is different from the word for Cornelius' vision. A vision is something seen outside one's self; a trance is the condition of one's mind, that sees inner visions. One is not asleep, and it is not a dream, but a peculiar exaltation of the spirit. In this trance Peter saw, let down from the sky, a great sheet, like "the wind-stretched canvas of the craft on the Lake of Galilee."—Lumby. It was full of animals, many of them the wild beasts and reptiles which the Jews considered unclean. Three times a mysterious voice bade Peter rise from his knees and eat and eat the shocking food, three times he refused in horror, three times he was bidden to make nothing unclean that God had cleansed by bidding him partake of it, and then the great sheet was lifted and disappeared in the sky.

The messengers from Cornelius "had made inquiry for Simon's house" (the Greek word implies a careful search through the streets), and while Peter was meditating on his vision, they were even then at the gate, and calling for him. Before word of his vision could reach him, the Holy Spirit in some way made Peter conscious of their coming, and bade him go with them.

The outstretched sheet which Peter saw in his vision signified the whole world, and the four corners symbolized the directions, north, south, east and west, in which the gospel was to be carried. The contents of the sheet showed that all men were to be reached, the lowest races as well as the highest, savage and civilized, poor and rich, ignorant and wise. It was a perfect symbol of foreign missions.

From every nation on earth immigrants are pouring into the United States at the rate of more than a million a year. America is the modern equivalent of the sheet of Peter's vision, full of clean and unclean, men of all languages, beliefs, customs, help and hurtful, blessings and scourges. The work of home missions is to believe in all these, love them all, and win them all for Jesus Christ.

Peter obeyed promptly and gladly, taking one step toward fellowship with the Gentiles by entertaining the three messengers over night in Simon's house. The cause of his obedience: (1) The influence of his own vision, (2) coupled with that of Cornelius matching it with evident supernatural design, (3) together with the influence of the Holy Spirit upon his mind, and (4) the memory of Christ's prophecies of the world-wide spread of his church. The character of Cornelius, as reported by the messengers, helped him to a decision. Evidently, also, he consulted with friends.